

MONTANA WOLF PROGRAM - WEEKLY REPORT

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Ken McDonald, Wildlife Bureau Chief
SUBJECT: Wolf Program Activities and Related Information
WEEK OF: August 27 – September 2, 2011

Contributors to the Montana Wolf Weekly are Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Universities, USDA Wildlife Services (WS), the National Park Service (NPS; Glacier NP; Yellowstone National Park will be reported in the Wyoming Wolf Weekly), US Forest Service, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and the Blackfeet Nation.

Highlighted activities relate to: monitoring, wolf-livestock interactions, outreach and education, research, law enforcement, and other miscellaneous topics of public interest. The Weekly Report will be available each Monday, covering the previous week. It and other wolf program information (including the 2009 annual report) can be found on the FWP website.

WOLF MONITORING ACTIVITIES:

Monitoring flight reports will be unavailable through Dec. 31st in order to assure a fair chase Montana wolf hunt.

8/29: A 4 month old female pup was hit and killed by a car on I-93 south of Darby. The pup is believed to be a member of the nearby Trapper Peak pack.

WOLF-LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES:

8/27: A private landowner near Wisdom legally killed three wolves that were harassing livestock on private land.

8/29: WS confirmed that a calf had been killed by wolves on private land near Wisdom. It was determined that the calf was most likely killed on August 26. This is the same area that 3 wolves were legally killed by a private landowner on August 27. This group of wolves is new and does not have a radio collar. WS and FWP are attempting to collar and release a wolf. No further management action is prescribed.

8/30: A 2 year old male wolf was called in and killed SW of Philipsburg. Control is ongoing to kill one more wolf and collar one.

8/31: A 2 year old male was trapped and killed East of Galen. This is the third wolf taken and completes the control action. Traps were pulled.

9/1: A male pup was captured and collared SW of Philipsburg. Control is ongoing to kill 1 more wolf.

9/2: WS investigated a report of a dead calf south of Butte on private land. WS determined it was unconfirmed or wolves did not kill it.

9/3: A wolf was trapped and killed SW of Philipsburg. Control is now finished but traps will be left out for several more days to try to radio-collar another individual.

9/4: An adult male was trapped and collared SW of Philipsburg. This completes the control action. Traps were pulled.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION:

9/1: Nelson attended the Upper Yellowstone watershed group meeting in Emmigrant.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES:

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

OTHER UPDATES:

9/3: Montana wolf harvest season began in some areas. See the MFWP website for more information.

To learn more about Montana's wolf population, the Montana program and to help FWP monitor wolves by reporting wolf sign, visit FWP online. Use the following shortcut link and be sure to update your bookmarks: <http://fwp.mt.gov/wolf>

To anonymously report a dead or injured wolf or suspected illegal activity, call: 1-800-TIP-MONT or 1-800-847-6668.

To request an investigation of injured or dead livestock, call USDA Wildlife Services directly in western Montana / Helena area at 406-458-0106 or in eastern Montana at the statewide office at 406-657-6464. Or, call your nearest FWP representative to have your call referred to Wildlife Services.

If you have a confirmed or probable livestock death loss due to wolves, USDA Wildlife Services will supply you with a copy of the Loss Reimbursement Application form. For more information, see <http://liv.mt.gov/liv/LM/index.asp> Or, contact the Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Program Coordinator, George Edwards at the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-5609.